SYNOPSIS

'THE RUNNING DOG'

by

WILLIAM EMMS

ACT I

Callan, Hunter and Meres are watching newsreel film of riots outside the Chinese Embassy. They are specifically interested in the activities of Ronald Holder, the leader of a neo-Fascist organisation which, it is believed, is planning some more serious provocation of the Chinese than these rather straightforward public demonstrations. Callan is assigned to discover what the Fascist plan is. He attends several meetings of the organisation, and attracts attention to himself so much so that Felice (Holder's girlfriend) approaches him to persuade him to join them. She goes with him to a cafe to discuss this proposal. Holder and his bodyguard, Henry, lock up the office and go home. Meantime, David Forbes of the Foreign Office visits the Chinese Ambassador, Tao Tsung, to protest about the behaviour of the Chinese both here and in Peking, where they are seriously mistreating the British Embassy officials. Tao is not particularly disturbed by Forbes because he says that it is part of his job to provoke the public into thinking about and subsequently accepting the thoughts of Chairman Mao. While Callan and Felice talk in the cafe, Lonely breaks into Holder's office and photographs all the papers he can find. He is almost caught by Henry who has returned for a map wanted by Holder. In Hunter's office, Callan, Hunter and Meres look at the photographs Lonely acquired; they turn out to be a list of names. But against the name of Tao Tsung is the word 'kill'.

ACT II

Forbes reports to Hunter that Tao will not stop his staff from attempting to provoke incidents. Further street riots occur outside the Chinese Embassy. Holder speaks at an open air meeting in Hyde Park Corner and comes dangerously near to exciting a race riot. Callan again attends the meeting and is noticed. He talks to Henry, the body guard, to see if the assassination plans have got any further. Returning to the office, Callan then asks Hunter why they don't just arrest Holder. But Hunter explains that everything possible must be done to keep the Fascist organisation out of the courts and the newpapers. On Hunter's instructions Meres visits Tao to tell him of the plan to kill him.

((MORE))

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ACT III

Meres reports back to Hunter that the Chinese are delighted about the assassination threat since the more publicity they get, the better - and Chairman Mao encourages sacrifice. Callan suggests that the only solution is to kidnap Tao for his own safety until the danger is past. Hunter cannot possibly condone this, but gives the impression that he is prepared to 'turn a blind eye' to anything Callan may do that is unorthodox. Callan walks down a street and is suddenly hustled into a car by two Chinese. Meres is nearby to photograph the incident. Later, Callan persuades Lonely to help him break into the Chinese Embassy. When he does so, it is to find Tao waiting for him. The Chinese Ambassador is delighted to have Callan's company although he is holding him under house arrest. Meres and Hunter try to get Callan released, but Tao is not interested. Then Holder and company arrive, and in the ensuing struggle, Holder and Henry are both killed. Tao then attempts to incriminate Callan. The publciity would be politically damaging to the British government. But Callan has already established, as we have seen, that he was forced into the Embassy by the photographs which have been taken. He is allowed to leave freely, taking the weeping Felice with him.

((ENDS))

'THE RUNNING DOG'

CAST LIST

CALLAN	EDWARD WOODWARD
HUNTER	DEREK BOND
LONELY	RUSSELL HUNTER
MERES	ANTHONY VALENTINE
HOLDER	TERENCE RIGBY
TAO TSUNG	BURT KWOUK
FELICE	RENNY LISTER
DAVID FORBES	NICHOLAS COURTNEY
HENRY	JONATHON NEWTH

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